

Statement on Senate Bill 2276 Pipelines

As a defender of rural Texas and the Texas way of life, I will always stand up for the private property rights of landowners. While the oil and gas industry is a critical component of our state's economy, I believe current state regulations are insufficient regarding pipelines and that landowners are not appropriately included in the process for determining pipeline routes. That is why I have filed Senate Bill 2276, which would require the Railroad Commission to issue a permit authorizing the route of a pipeline. Before granting this permit, the Railroad Commission would be required to determine that the route of the pipeline is reasonable and that it moderates the negative effects on affected communities and landowners after consideration of all relevant factors, including community values, recreational and park areas, historical and aesthetic values, and environmental integrity. I look forward to working on this important legislation with my colleagues in the Texas Senate and House, as well as with landowners and industry stakeholders, to further protect the property rights of my constituents in Senate District 24.

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